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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/697,269	10/26/2000	Christopher W. B. Goode	DIVA/002-CP2DV1	7527

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EXAMINER

NALEVANKO, CHRISTOPHER R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/697,269

Applicant(s)

B. GOODE ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher R. Nalevanko

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 May 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 03/20/2005 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 03/20/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues, "Pocock is completely silent respect to the Applicants claimed 'monitoring, at a session control manager, and a use time associated with the requested title,' and 'restoring a previously terminated session and providing a requested title to a set top terminal if the use time associated with the requested title has not expired'. Furthermore, Swenson and Garfinkle fail to bridge the substantial gap as between Pocock and the Applicant's invention." (page 7 line 31 to page 8 line 4). Examiner asserts that all of the claimed limitations have been met. Pocock is not used to show restoring a previously terminated session and providing the title to the user of the previously terminated session. This deficiency is shown by Swenson. Swenson clearly shows, in the case of previously terminated session (col. 4 lines 55-67, stopping presentation and saving position, 'Stop & Save Position'), restoring the terminated

session (col. 5 lines 9-13, position at which a subsequent request to play will be initiated, col. 5 lines 15-42, selecting a previous multimedia file) and providing the requested title to the terminal (col. 5 lines 15-42, saved "Title", typical bookmark function). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock with the ability to continue a terminated session so that a user could continue watching a video at his or her convenience. Finally, Garfinkle is used to show the use of a use time associated with a selected video (col. 3 lines 25-55, prescribed time period, limits the number of times a video maybe viewed, or a combination of viewing methods), as well as supplying the video if the use time has not expired (col. 3 lines 25-55). Garfinkle further shows monitoring at a session control manager (col. 4 lines 5-48, using microprocessor, time-of-day clock, synchronization data to determine if the use time has expired), the use time. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock and Swenson with the ability to associate a use time with the requested video so that the user could only watch the video for a predetermined amount of time before purchasing the video again, increasing the revenue from the on-demand system.

Applicant further argues, "The combined references fail to teach or suggest the Applicants' claimed features of 'monitoring, at a session control manger, a use time associated with the requested title,' and 'streaming said requested title to said set top terminal for display within constraints of the said use time.' ... Specifically, Garfinkle teaches that the use time associated with the requested title is determined at the set top terminal. By contrast the Applicant's invention monitors, at a session control manager, a

use time associated with the requested title. The session control manager shown in FIG. 1 of the Applicants' invention is part of the provider equipment, as opposed to the customer equipment (set top terminal)" (page 10 line 25 to page 11 line 7). There is nothing in the claimed limitation that describes the "session control manager" being at a central location or provider equipment. Because of this, the monitoring by a session control manager can take place at the user terminal, as shown by Garfinkle. Garfinkle shows the use of a use time associated with a selected video (col. 3 lines 25-55, prescribed time period, limits the number of times a video maybe viewed, or a combination of viewing methods), as well as supplying the video if the use time has not expired (col. 3 lines 25-55). Garfinkle further shows monitoring at a session control manager (col. 4 lines 5-48, using microprocessor, time-of-day clock, synchronization data to determine if the use time has expired), the use time. Finally, Garfinkle clearly shows streaming the requested title to the set top terminal for display within the constraints of the user time (col. 3 lines 50-67, high-speed data stream from central station, col. 4 lines 30-50, data stream with limit data, comprising a time limit or limit the number of accesses to the data, or both).

2. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., monitoring, at a session control manager, part of the provider equipment, page 9 lines 12-15) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

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3. In response to applicant's argument that "the combined teachings fail to solve the problem that the Applicants' invention solves" (page 9 lines 22-29), a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. In a claim drawn to a process of making, the intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. See *In re Casey*, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and *In re Otto*, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).
4. Regarding Claims 8, 9, 11, and 14, Applicant's failure to adequately traverse the Examiner's taking of Official Notice in the last office action is taken as an admission of the facts noticed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
5. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pocock et al (5,014, 125) in further view of Swenson et al (6,064,380) and Garfinkle (5,400,402).

Regarding Claim 1, Pocock shows an interactive information distribution system to provide requested information (col. 3 lines 25-55, user receiving requested

information) comprising receiving a title selection from a set-top terminal (col. 11 lines 35-40, user selected choice from menu) and, in the case of a first request, performing the steps of opening a session with the terminal (col. 9 lines 58-67, opening session with presentation system, col. 10 lines 54-67, opening viewing session) and providing the requested title to the terminal (col. 3 lines 40-50, transmitting presentation to viewers). Pocock fails to show restoring a previously terminated session and providing the title to the user through the previously terminated session. Swenson shows, in the case of previously terminated session (col. 4 lines 55-67, stopping presentation and saving position, 'Stop & Save Position'), restoring the terminated session (col. 5 lines 9-13, position at which a subsequent request to play will be initiated, col. 5 lines 15-42, selecting a previous multimedia file) and providing the requested title to the terminal (col. 5 lines 15-42, saved "Title", typical bookmark function). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock with the ability to continue a terminated session so that a user could continue watching a video at his or her convenience.

Neither Pocock nor Swenson show a use time associated with the requested video for displaying the video within that time or a video stream. Garfinkle shows the use of a use time associated with a selected video (col. 3 lines 25-55, prescribed time period, limits the number of times a video maybe viewed, or a combination of viewing methods), as well as supplying the video if the use time has not expired (col. 3 lines 25-55). Garfinkle further shows monitoring at a session control manager (col. 4 lines 5-48, using microprocessor, time-of-day clock, synchronization data to determine if the use time has

expired), the use time. Garfinkle clearly shows streaming the requested title to the set top terminal for display within the constraints of the user time (col. 3 lines 50-67, high-speed data stream from central station, col. 4 lines 30-50, data stream with limit data, comprising a time limit or limit the number of accesses to the data, or both). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock and Swenson with the ability to associate a use time with the requested video so that the user could only watch the video for a predetermined amount of time before purchasing the video again, increasing the revenue from the on-demand system.

Regarding Claim 2, Garfinkle shows associating a view time (col. 2 lines 20-25, col. 3 lines 45-50).

Regarding Claim 3, Garfinkle shows not providing the title if the view time has expired (col. 4 lines 30-48).

Regarding Claim 4, it is inherent and understood that if the use time of a requested video expires, a user may open a new video session with a new use time.

Regarding Claim 5, it is inherent and understood in Garfinkle that if the view time has expired, a user may open a new video session with a new use and view time.

Regarding Claim 6, Swenson shows beginning at a previous termination point (col. 5 lines 3-25).

Regarding Claim 7, Swenson shows the ability to begin the transmission at a title start point designated by the user (col. 5 lines 3-54).

Regarding Claim 8, Garfinkle shows that a set-top terminal can be associated with an account and that the use time defines the time within which the title maybe accessed (col. 2 lines 5-8, lines 20-25, col. 3 lines 45-50). Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle fail to specifically show incurring additional charges. Official Notice is taken that it is well known and expected in the art to charge a user more when a predetermined using time has expired. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle with the ability to charge for extra viewing time so that the distributor could create more revenue.

Regarding Claim 9, Garfinkle shows that a set-top terminal can be associated with an account and that the view time defines the amount of time the requested title maybe presented (col. 2 lines 5-8, lines 20-25, col. 3 lines 45-50). Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle fail to specifically show incurring additional charges. Official Notice is taken that it is well known and expected in the art to charge a user more when a predetermined viewing time has expired. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle with the ability to charge for extra viewing time so that the distributor could create more revenue.

Regarding Claim 10, Garfinkle shows blocking, erasing, or terminating a title when the use time has been expired (col. 2 lines 20-37).

Regarding Claim 11, Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle fail to specifically state terminating an open session when the presentation is concluded. Official Notice is given

that it is well known and expected in the art to terminate a session when a presentation has conclude. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle with the ability to terminate a finished session to free up available bandwidth in the communication system.

Regarding Claim 12, Swenson shows terminating a session after the title has requested to be halted (col. 5 lines 3-55).

Regarding Claim 13, Garfinkle shows blocking, erasing, or terminating a title when the view time has been expired (col. 2 lines 20-37).

Regarding Claim 14, Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle fail to specifically state terminating an open session when the presentation is concluded. Official Notice is given that it is well known and expected in the art to terminate a session when a presentation has conclude. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pocock, Swenson, and Garfinkle with the ability to terminate a finished session to free up available bandwidth in the communication system.

Regarding Claim 15, Swenson shows terminating a session after the title has requested to be halted (col. 5 lines 3-55).

Regarding Claim 16, Swenson shows associating a time with the halted presentation (col. 5. lines 45-50). It is inherent that a time variable is incremented.

Regarding Claim 17, Swenson shows a stop and pause command (col. 5 lines 3-55).

Regarding Claim 18, Swenson shows associating a time with the halted presentation (col. 5. lines 45-50). It is inherent that a time variable is incremented.

Regarding Claim 19, Swenson shows a menu including at least one title from the provider equipment to the set top terminal, where a user is enabled to select a title (fig. 3, col. 4 lines 42-67, col. 5 lines 20-32, user presented with a list of selectable, playable titles).

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Nalevanko whose telephone number is 571-272-7299. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on 571-272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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